

THE MCGILL DAILY

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Sinking to Uncharted Depths Since 1911

Monday, November 9th, 1992

General assembly decides nothing

MEETING LOSES QUORUM AFTER FRATERNITY SUPPORTERS WALK OUT

BY MIA BAUDRY

The Students' Society General Assembly was supposed to enhance democracy at McGill. But it lost quorum before it even approved the agenda.

It took 45 minutes for the Assembly to reach quorum. After speaker Christophe Sicking explained the rules for the Assembly, the next topic was approving the agenda.

U3 arts student Corey Dufresne tried to change the agenda, putting the last motion first. The motion would have reformed the process for recognizing Students' Society interest groups, and was originally proposed by sorority members in the workshops leading up to the Assembly.

Dufresne said that he wanted to move the motion up in the agenda because it was an interesting issue. "I am not in a fraternity. I thought this motion would interest everybody."

According to Amy Ridley, an assembly workshop coordinator, Dufresne was a member of Beta Theta Pi.

After the agenda change was defeated, about thirty fraternity and sorority members walked out, breaking quorum.

"(The frats) broke quorum on purpose. This illustrates that frats and sororities aren't ready to be brought in to SSMU. They showed a distinct lack of interest in issues, and this is very disappointing," said Ridley.

Jason Atlas, a U3 Science student at the meeting, said that the refusal to change the agenda was not a rejection of the proposed policy change.

"We weren't saying no, we were just saying we didn't think they should be put first. (Walking out) was just a reconfirmation of the stereotypes of frat mentality."

The proposed interest group policy change would not have necessarily recognized fraternities. The new policy would have allowed club representatives to attend hearings on whether to accept their clubs, and provided an appeal process.

Society president Jason Prince thought that if the interest group motion had gone first, the fraternities and sororities would have left after it was voted on. "It was clear to everyone that a large amount of students were from fraternities and sororities. All students had to make a decision. If (the motion) had gone first we would have lost quorum."

One sorority member who stayed after the walk-out said the fraternities had no intention of breaking quorum.

"It was an emotional reaction to the fact that, at the beginning of the meeting, there was already a NO to

our concerns. Perhaps they didn't think the issue would be addressed at all," said Daniela Pizzoto of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

"The Students' Society doesn't care about us, so if you want to be bitchy, we don't care about them," continued Pizzoto.

Issues such as equity, campus safety, cultural diversity and discrimination were also on the Assembly agenda.

"It's hypocritical that a group that wants to be seen as equal on campus did not care about issues concerning equality and student rights," said Carolyn Peters, a U3 Arts student.

Prince said the walkout confirmed his reluctance to recognize the Inter-Fraternity Council.

"I've always said that the fraternity council shouldn't be recognized by council because it discriminates on the basis of gender. This proves frats aren't interested in student issues."

Ridley said increased student participation in future assemblies would prevent control by a single group. "I hope the assembly makes students aware of the necessity of participating in the political process, for their benefit and the benefit of all students."

Sicking was disappointed by the walkout. "I know that Students' Society spent a lot of time and effort trying to get people here. I'm just sad and I guess it's too bad."

Parc Avenue Speedway

BY GLEN HARRIS

The recent death of a motorcyclist on Parc avenue has raised concern over new reserved bus lanes on Parc, as well as the slow response time of the ambulances.

On Sunday October 25th, Scott Davidson died as the result of wounds from a traffic accident on Parc Avenue between Fairmount and St. Viateur. A car veered into the path of Davidson's motorcycle.

Davidson and his passenger Bryan McAdam had been driving north in the centre lane when a Saab pulled out of a parking lot on the east side of the street. It headed south, against the flow of traffic, in the centre lane.

The view of the driver of the Saab had been partially obscured by a double parked truck on the east side of the street. Davidson attempted to avoid impact but was unsuccessful. McAdam was thrown from the motorcycle before the vehicles collided. McAdam survived.

Peter Richardson and Holt Pritchard, friends of the victim, have been investigating their friend's death. They said that the new bus lanes on Parc are unsafe, and that the slow response time of the ambulance contributed to Davidson's death.

"We want to know what happened — why did our friend die?" asked Richardson. "We want to find out for his dignity, and to give meaning to his death."



Friends of Scott Davidson (Pritchard & Richmond)

The safety of Parc avenue has come under fire since the city introduced reserved lanes for buses during rush hour last September 8th. The avenue's six lanes were reduced to five, and the centre lane made a bi-directional lane, determined by rush hour traffic load. Many merchants along the street have complained about the new bus lanes.

In a report released by Concordia professor Bala Ashtakala, he predicted that the city's new plans would make the thoroughfare more dangerous, encouraging head-on collisions.

Ashtakala's claims are supported by the 40 traffic accidents that have occurred since the implementation of the new system up to the end of October.

"Motorists have to drive the wrong way in the middle lane when

people are double parked," said Richardson. "Since there are many merchants along that stretch of Parc, there are often delivery trucks double parked during business hours."

Richmond and Pritchard are also concerned about the time it took Urgence Santé ambulances to arrive and remove the victims to emergency wards.

Records of the 911 calls and the ambulance radio communications indicate that the first emergency call occurred at 21h33. It took nine minutes for the first ambulance to arrive, and 11 minutes for the second, which wasn't summoned until the first was on the scene.

It wasn't until 10h25 that Davidson was admitted to Hôtel Dieu hospital. Around seventeen minutes were spent on the scene

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Safety Notice

A woman reported that a man followed her up her apartment steps Saturday October 31. When she asked him to leave he came closer to her and tried to grab her. She was able to get into her apartment but the man watched her through her window until he saw her calling her roommate, when he then left. The man is described as "tall, thin, middle-eastern with medium length dark hair and in his mid-twenties." He was wearing a 3/4 length tan coat.

A woman reported that she was grabbed by a man on Union Street on Tuesday November 3 who then stuck his hand down her shirt. She managed to fight him and run away. The man spoke english with a french accent and is described as "5'11, mid-twenties, dark hair and clean cut."

On Wednesday November 4th, a man verbally harassed two women, using racist intonations towards one, on the fourth floor of the union building. The same man has been sighted several times in the union building in the last week. He is described as "5'10, over 50 years of age, reddish complexion, dark hair and wearing eye glasses."

There have been many reports of a man scamming for funds in the ghetto and plateau area. The man knocks at doors, explains that he is your neighbour and a Concordia psychology student. Stating that his friend is in jail and he needs bail money, he then requests \$20. The man is described as blond, and in his twenties.

If you have any information about any of these incidents or any others, please call the police, the Sexual Assault Centre, or Walksafe at 398-2498.

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New options at Benny Farm

NON-PROFIT CORPORATION OFFERS TO BUY SITE

SUSAN VIVIAN

The future of a seniors' and veterans' housing project looks a little brighter after a new offer was made for the site Thursday.

Montréal architect Michael Fish has formed a non-profit corporation which will buy, administer and develop the Benny Farm site at no expense to Montréal taxpayers. Fish hopes that in this way the historical and ecological significance of the housing project will be preserved.

"Benny Farm is a precious piece of urbanism and architecture—we want people to glory in the majestic open spaces there," said Fish. "And at the same time the community will make a fortune."

The future of Benny Farm, located on the outskirts of NDG, came into question last year when the federal government announced it was withdrawing funding from public housing.

Benny Farm is under the administration of a federal agency—the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)—which is having to find ways to dispose of the property.

Fish made his proposal in response to the CMHC's own proposal. The CMHC wants to tear down all buildings currently on the site, and replace them with new housing units, fully accessible to the disabled. It also calls for tripling the current population density.

Fish says his concerns are both historical and ecological.

"NDG wants to put low rise crap into an otherwise beautiful community spaces," said Fish. "We don't want that to happen."

Marcel Tremblay, who ran for the Civic Party in NDG, supports Fish's proposal.

"The government decided to pull

out of such housing projects and Fish is allowing them to do just that," said Tremblay. "The neighbours around Benny Farm are against the CMHC increasing density at the cost of green space because it will kill the beauty of their surroundings. This proposal preserves that."

But Anne Kettenbeil, CMHC tenant liaison for Benny Farm, said demolition followed by rebuilding is the best way to meet tenant needs.

"The CMHC decided not to renovate anything because of the age and type of buildings," said Kettenbeil. "The only choice is to invest lots or start again."

Kettenbeil supervised a CMHC survey of Benny Farm tenant needs. Given the narrow hallways, wheelchair accessibility on the ground floor only, and unmodified bathrooms, the CMHC believes it would be better to start over.

"For the actual tenants, the buildings are obsolete," she said.

But some feel Kettenbeil's survey is suspect. Peluso and Fish say many residents were led by the surveyors to include needs they hadn't perceived on their own.

"The multiple surveys conducted on the residents used unsound statistics and loaded questions. Their motives are to be questioned," said Fish.

Fish and his supporters feel demolition is an unnecessary and historically damaging project.

"There is so much land around Benny Farm that nothing needs to be demolished," said Maria Peluso of Concordia University, who enlisted her students to help Fish research his proposal. "We don't want to deny that the residents need some buildings with elevators, but the property is there without having to do any tear-downs."

Arnold Bennett, a Montréal housing activist working with the NDG housing committee, agrees.

"The CMHC says the existing buildings are no longer any good—I disagree," said Bennett. "I think the CMHC is funding their data on how much it would cost to upgrade, and how extensive such renovations need to be."

Given that the average age of citizens residing at Benny Farm is 70, Fish finds the CMHC proposal troubling. Fish believes the new units will be sold as condominiums or used for social housing, both of which are opposed by the neighbouring NDG community.

"None of the CMHC's proposed buildings will be built for at least 15 years, given the city's current construction agenda, at which point the majority of current residents will be dead," said Fish.

Bennett said the NDG Housing Committee agrees with Fish's concerns and is working to ensure that the city and CMHC don't make a deal behind closed doors.

"Our concerns are that we don't want the area's density to be tripled as the CMHC proposal suggests, that they structures aren't demolished for future saleable condos," said Bennett.

Fish's corporation will offer market price for the land, estimated at \$8.09 million, and will build up to three low rise buildings. These would have the elevators and wheelchair accessibility promised to veterans that live on the Farm by the CMHC.

Because the money to purchase the property would be from a government guaranteed bank loan, there would be no need for any public funds for the project to succeed.

City incinerator wasteful say critics



BY DEE HOYANO

While the city plans to upgrade its garbage incinerator, waste management critics claim that the money would be better spent on recycling projects.

The Bureau de Consultation de Montréal (BCM), a waste management lobby group, recently released a report questioning the city's plans to renovate the Des Carrières incinerator at a cost of \$100 million. The report recommended the establishment of local centres that could receive waste, and sort for recyclable or reusable materials.

"By just renovating the Des Carrières incinerator, we will be moving backward," said Annette Rochette, a member of the Québec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG). "The Ressourcerie will encourage people to look at garbage in a different way, and get the community involved in the problem."

If Montréal adopts alternative waste management strategies, it could have a major influence on the rest of the province, according to Jacqueline Mayrand, coordinator of the Better Waste Management Project for QPIRG.

"The city gave an example of leadership last winter by consulting the population on waste management. It's a step in the right direction," she said. "But now it is the time for the city to stop the talk about environmentalism and put words into action."

Marvin Rotrand, city councillor for the opposition Democratic Coalition, said that according to one engineer's estimates, four of these tonnes, capable of handling 125 000 tonnes of waste per year, could be built at a cost of \$24 million, a savings of \$76 million compared to the incinerator renovations.

The BCM study also recommended that the city approach the province of Québec for a province-wide consultation on waste policy.

"The city of Montréal's decisions, not only in areas of waste management, have a major effect on the rest of the province," said Mayrand. "If [the city] wants to set

the pace for the promotion of the 3 Rs (reduce, reuse, re-cycle), it can, but it must be done with the rest of the province."

Mayrand also expressed dismay at the proposal to build another \$250 million incinerator in Montréal East. She said that waste is not merely something to be burned or put into landfills. It contains many usable resources and can generate innovative employment and production.

"I think if you go to the citizens you will find an amazing amount of ideas about what can be done with waste," said Mayrand. "I think we're much more innovative than engineers. They can only think of a chimney."

QPIRG's response to Montréal's waste problem is the Ressourcerie, a comprehensive "resource centre" that can deal with waste efficiently. The Ressourcerie could include recycling facilities, renovation and repair services for broken appliances and furniture, public education and information, and community composting.

"The Ressourcerie is a centre for education, animation, workshops, repairing, job training and composting," said Mayrand.

Unlike incineration, which may put toxic substances into the air and water as a result of low-temperature burning and accumulate massive amounts of ash that must be disposed of, the Ressourcerie would provide an alternative to the "burn and dump" strategies of the past.

The Ressourcerie's foundation has been from the citizens of Montréal. Already, four public meetings have been held in Plateau Mont Royal and Centre Sud to discuss the project. Plateau Mont Royal/Centre Sud is the target location for the first Ressourcerie.

Action Rebutis, a Montreal coalition for eco-friendly waste management, has adopted the Ressourcerie project, and interested people may phone QPIRG at 398-7457 for information.

Speedway

continued from front page

and another fifteen to twenty minutes in travel. Davidson was pronounced dead at 23h00.

Richmond and Pritchard want to know why it took so long for the ambulances to arrive, and why two weren't sent after the first call.

"I have ten witnesses who can attest to the fact that during the first call to 911, it was made clear that there were two victims," said Richmond.

It is also a mystery as to why the first ambulance took 15-20 minutes to get to the hospital when it is a two to four minute automobile ride, even without emergency lights and sirens.

The preliminary police report on the accident quotes a doctor from Hôtel Dieu hospital as saying that Davidson shouldn't have been brought to that hospital.

Unlike Royal Victoria Hospital, where McAdam was taken, Hôtel

Dieu doesn't have a trauma unit. The efficiency of Urgence Santé appears especially suspect when compared to another Canadian metropolis.

The Toronto Ambulance Service has an average emergency response time of 6.6 minutes, and an 11.4 minute period for assessing, stabilizing and loading the victim into the ambulance. The mean travel time to a trauma centre is seven minutes.

Claude Desrosiers, a spokesperson for Urgence Santé said that the ambulance service is working to comply with standards set out in a report by Québec minister of health Marc-Yvan Côté, which was released last June. It stipulated that Urgence Santé must lower its response time to six minutes for emergency calls. A period of eight months was given to attain this standard.

However, Desrosiers said that "it will take a total of two years to meet the objective. This is to allow for the implementation of a computer driven emergency dispatch system which will place on-board computer navigators in the ambulances."

Ironically, Urgence Santé ambulance technicians are currently on a work-to-rule protest. They are demanding better training equivalent to three years of college, as well as a renewal of their contract.

Richmond and Pritchard have been circulating a petition in protest of the new traffic system which already has an estimated 400-600 signatures. They have planned a protest for Tuesday at 17h00 at the corner of Parc and St. Vaiteur.

Bryan McAdam was released from hospital last week. Scott Davidson was survived by his four year old son and his common law wife.

THE MCGILL DAILY

comment

Rent too high? Buy a condo!

Tired of getting the run-around from your landlord? Sick of high rent and slow repairs? To many students, the frustrations of tenant life are all too familiar.

But don't despair, the city of Montréal has the perfect solution for all low-income tenants, students living on a limited budget, and those living in subsidized housing: buy your own place.

Yes, even though you may be living on a \$500 a month budget, the city is going to propose that instead of paying rent, you fork out a bargain \$100 000 to buy your own place, once it is converted to a condominium.

Sound preposterous? Well, coming from a mayor who spends \$800 000 on toilets for city hall, it's a brilliant idea.

This is the rationale: there are too many empty apartments around Montréal right now. Why? The city says it's because landlords can't make enough money just renting a place out.

So the city proposes to let landlords convert their rental apartments into condos, so landlords and developers can make oodles of cash converting everything in sight into condos and sell to wide-eyed yuppies, who now lament the lack of high-cost housing in Montréal.

Housing activists and tenants' rights organizations are screaming mad about this, for good reason. They were behind the 1987 ban on condo conversions.

Before the city approved the ban, landlords who wanted to make a fast buck could force low-income tenants out to make way for conversion. The poor were left homeless, while the rich got richer and had nice posh homes.

Not this time, the city says. Landlords who attempt underhanded methods of kicking tenants out will face tough fines, ranging from \$5 000 to \$25 000. The city claims that only vacant apartments would be subject to conversions.

But fines will probably be useless. Landlords will always find ways to kick out tenants without enough cash. All it takes is a landlord slow on repairs and quick on collecting rent to make you want to move out.

Even if the city's logic works, it is still inapplicable for students. Why? Because students don't stay in the same place for long. Economic factors (like always having to find roommates) and the limited time we spend in university force us to constantly change places of residence.

Once a group of students moves out, their old place is converted to a condo. As the process goes, there will be more and more condos and fewer apartments around for students.

So, unless you have \$100 000 lying around to buy your own place, rents will begin to skyrocket, and many students will be left out in the cold.

Unfortunately, the city is not hearing the students' message. To raise your objection at this corporate-driven absurdity, call your local city councillor and raise hell.

Dave Ley

Nick Auf-der Maur is the councillor for the McGill ghetto and west downtown area. Sammy Forcillo is the newly elected councillor from the centre-sud/downtown district. Both Forcillo and Auf-der Maur are from the right-wing Civic Party which supports lifting the condo ban. Both can be reached at 872-3134. You can also use that number to find out who your councillor is.

letters

To the Daily,

I would like to clear up the misconception concerning the letter I addressed to the PSC (Palestinian Solidarity Committee) once and for all.

Mr. Salim (*), while I could argue point by point the letters written by both you and Mr. Arafat, I despise the famous "letter wars" in the Daily, so I shall refrain myself from doing so.

You suggest that I deny that your people have suffered.

I do not in any way! I sympathize with you that Palestinians have been

victimized by both Israelis and their Palestinian brothers.

What does concern me is the fact that the PSC is unwilling to acknowledge the fact that unprecedented progress has been made in the entire Arab-Israeli conflict.

Perhaps it is time for both sides on campus to revamp their strategies. Would it not be more valuable and legitimate to throw out the old propaganda and concentrate on the positive.

Mr. Salim, your letter is a case in

point. I don't recall there being a Palestinian country, to which you constantly refer, but perhaps when the peace talks are done you will have one to call home.

Yet unlike you, I believe that peace is more than a dream. The very fact that all the parties have sat down at the same table says enough. How can you ignore the fact that on Oct. 1 Israel and Jordan (mostly populated by Palestinians) signed an agreement recognizing the goal of a peace treaty?

I worry that perhaps the PSC is being controlled by people that are opposed to middle eastern reconciliation. If that is not the case, then we should have a quiet and peaceful year on campus.

Saalam Aliekhum

Daniel Koffler
U2 Political Science

(*When Youssef Arafat refers to me as a friend, he is being accurate, because we are. I won't patronize you with such a statement, since I have never met you.)

To the Daily:

Ian Hay's obvious ignorance regarding the critical theories of bell hooks (as expressed in his November 6th letter) is not nearly as offensive as the techniques of victim-blame which he employs in his arguments.

Following his line of reasoning, we are led to believe that oppressed groups are somehow responsible for their own victimization, because they seek to challenge and refuse to participate in the dominant power structures of society. If hooks' political perspective is "imaginary", then Hay's argument that blacks perpetuate their position of inequality through "anti-social advancement attitudes" would be true. This ignores the fact that inequality is a matter of certain groups having a disparate amount of power.

Based on his arguments, it can be assumed that Hay would also ascribe to the viewpoint that we men are to blame for the unequal status and continuum of violence which they suffer, thereby overlooking the fact that female

oppression is a result of gender-based patriarchal relations.

To clear up Hay's confusion as to whether black people can be racist: certainly it is possible — just as women can be sexist. But this hardly seems to be a crucial issue for examination when you consider which groups possess the institutionalized power to enforce their beliefs and attitudes. hooks does not engage in "blame-ascribing", but focuses on "the primary contradiction in Western cultural thought that the superior should control the inferior" (hooks 1984). Likewise, hooks implies that any form of multicultural appreciation is rendered useless unless it is accompanied by a fair share of power and representation for minority groups.

Perhaps, you — Ian Hay — are the one in need of some reality politics. I urge you to look at your own sources of bias. You just might be surprised at whose feet are really in mid-air.

Rebecca J. Haines
U2 Arts



hyde park

"Women should hang together like words in a sentence" — Wittig

— submitted by a group of women who support abortion.

The fact exists that there is a need to recognize abortion as a real issue for women. The fact exists that there are no support groups in the Montréal/McGill community that recognize this issue. Often women are left alone after experiencing an abortion, which tends to promote a feeling of alienation. This issue is skirted by society and therefore women have difficulty discussing their abortions.

Society has to realize the reality of this dire issue. In Canada there is no law against abortion — there is no political position on it. Abortions are available and are a commonality, but attitudes of disapproval still exist. Because we are socialized to believe that abortions should be shunned there exists a major lack of dialogue. This leads women to believe that since it isn't talked about, there is something wrong with their choice. We must divert ourselves from this "taboo" that hinders abortion and which disallows women to communicate. We must get away from the ideas of pity and victimization and move towards more empowering lingo, i.e. survivor.

We want to alter these attitudes entrenched in society. That is why we have taken it upon ourselves to organize an informal group of women to discuss our experiences. We want change. We want to talk.

We are holding our first meeting on Thursday, November 12 at 19h. Please feel free to bring a friend. For more information contact the Women's Union in union 423 or call 392-6823.

All readers are welcome to submit letters under 300 words. Add your name, program, year and telephone number. Anonymity can be provided; talk to an editor beforehand. Opinions can be expressed in the form of a Hyde Park, no more than 500 words.



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Trouble in the woods

natives and environmentalists fight against logging in provincial park

"I don't know why they bother calling it a park," says frustrated Greenpeace member Diane Goulet, referring to Québec's La Vérendrye provincial park. Threatened by clear-cut logging, the 10 000 square kilometre wildlife reserve located 400 kilometres northwest of Montréal is the focus of a bitter dispute between natives and environmentalists and Québec's Ministry of Forests.

Developments in the last two months — bulldozer blocking, road-blocks, law suits and counter-suits — have raised the stakes.

But what upsets Goulet is that the conflict was supposed to be settled 14 months ago. In 1991, the Barrière Lake Algonquins and the Québec and Federal governments hammered out an accord that would allow logging in the park while protecting the Algonquins' traditional burial sites and hunting areas. The 460-strong Barrière Lake Algonquin band live in the middle of La Vérendrye park.

Goulet, who works on forestry issues for Greenpeace, said the accord was the first time Québec has accepted a "multi-user" approach towards forest management. But in the last year, the Québec government — specifically forestry minister Albert Côté — has not respected the spirit of the "trilateral" accord.

Last summer, Côté gave the go-ahead to Gatineau lumberman Claude Bérard to begin forestry operations in the park. In October, Algonquins stood in front of bulldozers in an attempt to stop the forest's destruction.

"It's the first time other forest users, besides industry, are included in managing the forests, and they go right ahead and allow loggers to start cutting in sensitive areas."

Policymakers running amok

The conflict between the Barrière Lake Algonquins and the government is largely a product of contradictory government policy.

Signed in August 1991, the accord evoked a wave of optimism that Native-Québec relations could improve after Québec's blundering response to the 1990 "Oka crisis." Although Côté himself signed the accord, it is widely believed that he was under pressure by more powerful ministers in the Bourassa cabinet.

But only months before the accord was signed, Côté awarded logging contracts in the park to five local logging companies — including the company belonging to Claude Bérard. The companies were given permission to remove the maximum allowable quantity of lumber without any significant restrictions.

According to a report released two weeks ago by Québec Superior Court Judge Réjean Paul — appointed by the provincial government to mediate in the conflict — the logging contracts threaten the future of the accord. He said the



accord takes precedence over logging contracts, even though the contracts were signed before the accord.

"The accord, which is a solemn pact and which can be considered a treaty, should be always be considered whenever logging contracts are awarded by the ministry of forests to private firms," said Paul. "The ministry's agreement with (Claude Bérard) does not respect either the letter or the spirit of the accord."

Judge Paul said he understood the government wants to begin logging in the area to promote the local economy, but adds "this logging must not be done at the (Algonquins') expense."

Paul's comments surprised the government, which has so far not officially responded to the report.

Government acting in bad faith

For the Barrière Lake Algonquins, the conflict is between elements of the government that practice the "old school" of forest management — where nobody is consulted — and elements that desire a more integrated form of forest management.

"Even though the trilateral accord is a very innovative pilot project on forest management sponsored by the government of Québec, people like Albert Côté are very resistant to change," said the Algonquins' lawyer and Kahnawake Mohawk, Russell Diabo.

"He has stalled the mediation process as long as he can and when it seemed imminent, he gave logging permits to (Bérard) in order to derail mediation."

Algonquin Michel Thusky accuses Côté of backroom dealing with logging companies and then blaming the Algonquins of acting in bad faith. "He's trying to provoke a second Oka by accusing us of negotiating (a cutting plan) in bad faith."

During Judge Paul's investigation, a

lawyer for Claude Bérard made public a letter from the Ministry of Forests which said logging could go ahead as planned and that to "ensure peace and tranquility," Public Security Minister Claude Ryan would be contacted. Some Algonquins interpreted this remark as a veiled threat that Sûreté du Québec officers would be sent to ensure that natives would not disrupt logging.

The Barrière Lake Algonquins are one of the few remaining native bands in Québec that still practices a traditional lifestyle, said Thusky. Most members of the community fish, hunt and trap for a living. Most still speak their own language.

Thusky said most Algonquins recognize that the Québec economy requires some logging in the area be conducted to boost the local economy. But Thusky said forestry development has its limits. "We're not opposed to logging, but we want it to be done respectfully."

Thusky feared that if the forest is clear cut, young people would lose touch with nature and eventually their culture. "First the wildlife would disappear, then the Algonquins would suffer, and eventually, in the long term, so would the economy."

Detailed inventory needed

Diabo said the survival of the forest is a race between loggers and naturalists studying the forest. He said that if naturalists conduct a detailed inventory of wildlife and plantlife, establishing sensitive zones, loggers could never be allowed to cut the entire forest.

"(Algonquins) have tried to create an inventory of the wildlife in the area so that the needs of nature, tourists and indigenous peoples can be taken into account," said Diabo.

Under the trilateral accord, a task force of naturalists was sent to identify sensitive ecological and cultural zones for

protection. According to Thusky, sensitive zones in the park would include moose calving areas and nesting areas for martens, eagles and turtles.

Birch forests, used by Algonquins for the construction of canoes and snowshoes, and areas where medicinal plants grow should also be protected by the accord.

La Vérendrye park has received little protection from its park status over the years. Originally untouched wilderness, government officials allowed moose hunting in the 60s. In 1975, under pressure from the forest industry, the provincial government stripped La Vérendrye of its park status and renamed it a "wildlife reserve" — a largely meaningless term. Since 1975, over 50 per cent of the La Vérendrye's massive forest has been clear cut.

Industry and government collusion

The Algonquins' struggle over the last three years has exposed many charges of government collusion with the forestry industry — none of which have been seriously investigated.

Côté, selected by Bourassa as forest minister because of his background in the forest industry, is former president of Rexor Inc, a large Québec forest conglomerate. Rexor today is also partial owner of Scieries Grand-Rémous, one of the five logging companies with contracts in La Vérendrye Park. And Rexor is anxiously awaiting Côté's permission to begin cutting in December.

Diabo said the Algonquins made another interesting discovery when they went to court to counter a law suit initiated by Claude Bérard. The government-appointed judge withdrew himself from the trial when the Algonquin's lawyer revealed that the judge had worked for Bérard nine years earlier.

Thusky said the environment ministry has also helped Côté speed up cutting the forests in the park. Algonquins briefly delayed road construction crews last month with a regulation of Québec's environmental code. The code requires an environmental assessment certificate for any road over two kilometres. But six days later construction crews got their certificate — record time according to Thusky. He said no environmental review was ever performed.

"The road passes right through some moose calving areas which they would have seen had they come," said Thusky. "Côté has the Environment Ministry in his back pocket."

In the upcoming weeks Diabo said the conflict will come to a head. He said Algonquins are preparing for the worst. He expects Côté will attempt to overwhelm the Algonquins by allowing all five logging companies to begin logging December 1st.

If you wish to help the Algonquins in their fight against the ministry of forests, call Russell Diabo in Ottawa at (613) 233-8686.

by Peter Clibbon

Students to have access to course evaluations

BY FIONA MCCAW

Senate approved a plan Wednesday to make course evaluation results available to students, although not all information will be made available.

The plan calls for the release of responses to standardized multiple-choice course evaluation questions, provided the professor has been teaching for at least two years and gives written permission to release the results.

All student senators voted for the plan.

Written permission from professors is required by Québec privacy law, said Law professor Ronald Sklar, a committee member.

Engineering dean Pierre Bélanger said the plan did not set

enough guidelines for departments, so that departments could keep any questions secret.

History professor Robert Vogel said he did not like the plan.

"If students collected the information themselves, they would have every right to publish it themselves," said Vogel. "In the past, students produced their own guides which were witty, informative, and useful for students and faculty. With this, as with tenure hearings, we are telling them that information must be uniform, statistical and universal across the university."

Vogel added that he felt the need for statistical questions would limit the usefulness of the information.

"I think we should be encouraging students to publish their own information," said Vogel.

Science student senator Emmanuel Chomski said he did not think printing student comments was a viable option, as selecting the comments would be arbitrary, particularly if the selection was done by students. Chomski said he was worried about students using the evaluations to take out grudges on professors for giving them bad marks. He said he favoured statistics because they were "more impartial."

Students' society vp university affairs Monique Shebbeare said Students' Society decided to cooperate with the university for course evaluations rather than doing their own because they wanted "to do it as partnership rather than in conflict."

History professor Carman Miller said he had no objection to course evaluations, but was not sure they would be helpful to students.

"Not all students are equally

qualified to evaluate instructors," said Miller, adding that he thought peer review was a more appropriate way of judging a professor's value.

Microbiology and Immunology professor Michael DuBow disagreed with Miller, saying students were competent to evaluate how they were being taught.

"I think that our job is to teach and their job is to learn," said DuBow. "I think they can tell us about how well they are receiving information."

Other senate stuff

Ombudsperson Annette Werk gave a report to Senate Wednesday. Werk said the McGill Sexual Harassment policy needed a review. Werk particularly objected to the Sexual Harassment assessors' dual roles as advocate and judge of sexual harassment cases. Students' Society and the Post-Graduates' Students'

Society have both called for a review of the policy.

Principal Johnston wasn't going to say anything about the results of the Macleans survey of universities, but as Physical and Occupational Therapy professor Christina Hui-Chan brought it up, he was compelled to say a few words.

"It's a confirmation of the remarkable commitment to quality of the university," said Johnston. "With the money we have we use it very well."

Johnston likes Macleans.

"Isn't it great that a national magazine can devote 55 pages to higher education," he said.

senate briefs

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Students' Society briefs

Our student leaders, aka Council, spent another three hours trying to lead last Thursday night. They dealt with a lot of internal bullshit that doesn't affect anyone anywhere.

However, they did decide to do a couple of important things, which are listed here.

Another Assembly

Society prez Jason Prince moved that Students' Society try to have another General Assembly next week. Not enough people attended Wednesday's assembly to keep quorum, the minimum number people needed for the meeting to have the authority to make a decision.

Prince proposed the new assembly so Council would have a chance to debate it.

"If we have another (Assembly) next week, we can use the momentum and energy we've built up," said Prince. He added that in 1989 the first attempt to have a General Assembly on tuition fees failed to get quorum.

Almost all members of Council were opposed to the new Assembly, each for different reasons.

"I think the verdict of the people is in, and it is that they don't care

about the General Assembly," said athletics rep James Stewart.

Jeff Percival, vp external, agreed. "If we don't get quorum a second time, it looks really bad."

Some councillors objected to the idea that Council should lead while students follow. "I really like this. The students should be studying, and we should be leading." That doesn't sound like democracy," said arts rep Jon Ablett.

Residence rep André Bruehlman said, "I believe the exercise of democracy for democracy's sake is pretty, but it is pretty ineffective."

Not again: SSMUcorp 3

Students' Society decided to strike its third incorporation committee in two years at last Thursday's meeting.

The Society set up a corporation over the summer to employ Society staff, obtain liquor permits, and sign contracts. Until last year, Society employees were McGill employees.

This committee will look into the corporation, and try to find ways to improve it.

"There's no effective link between the corporation that currently exists and the Students' Society,"

said Society prez Jason Prince.

Prince said later that the relationship between the Society and the corporation needed to be redefined because it is very vague. The Society and the corporation have the same members, undergraduate students.

Pass/Fail option

Students' Society decided without much debate to lobby the university to give students the option of being graded pass/fail. The mark would not appear on the student's GPA.

Under the proposal, only elective courses could be graded pass/fail. The professors would assign everyone a regular letter grade, and the MARS computer would assign the pass/fail marks. That way, the professor would not know which students are being graded pass/fail.

by Mike Rottmayer

events

The Social Justice Committee of Montréal presents Patti Strong, from the Canadian Lawyers Association for International Human Rights. Topic: NAFTA and Human Rights in Latin America.

Say No to the rise of Neo-Nazi Racism and Fascism in Germany. The Canadian Centre on Racism and Prejudice is organizing a march to the German consulate on the International Day of Action against Racism and Fascism, November 9. Meet at Reggie's 18h00, 7th floor Concordia Hall building, 1455 de Maisonneuve West.

Latin America Awareness Group will meet in room 107-108 at 17h00. After we will go to UQAM to listen to Rigoberta Menchu.

The department of Political Science and the McGill committee of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute present Professor Ashutosh Varshney, from the Department of Government, Harvard University. Topic: Beyond urban bias, democracy, economic policy and rural well-being in India. November 9, Arts Council Room 16h00-18h00

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McGill Students (with valid ID): \$3.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$2.50 per day. McGill Employees (with staff card) \$4.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$3.50 per day. All others: \$5.00 per day, or \$4.00 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. (Prices do not include applicable GST or PST). For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 - **WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE.**

The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will reappear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

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Room in Solin (Annex) available now. For McGill student (male). Quiet building. Three minutes walk from Lionel Groulx Metro. Contact Alif (939-1536)

2 - Movers/Storage

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3 - Help Wanted

Wanted: motivated, committed, hard-working individuals to run their own summer painting business. College Pro Painters still has excellent franchises available. Average net summer profit: \$10,000. 874-0352 9-5 pm.

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10 - Rides/Tickets

TICKET Montreal-Vancouver - one-way. Depart 18th November - Mirabel. Male - \$200 or nearest offer. Call 672-5564 (Sean) or 398-7375 (Bernice).

Ride needed to Toronto for the weekend of November 13th. I will be happy to split gas and expenses. Call Tara at 989-1397.

12 - Personal

Discussion Group - Organized by Students from families of Jewish and non-Jewish parents. Everyone welcome to explore, discuss in open, nonjudgemental environment. Call Hillel 845-9171.

All I want for my birthday is a Ben & Jerry's ice cream cake. Hint, hint, hint. For info call 286-6073. 1316 de Maisonneuve W.

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LBGM Meeting!! Come one, come all! Thursday, November 12, 6:00 at 550 Sherbrooke W., Rm. 1170 to discuss dance, peer counselling, etc.

Interfaith Dialogue: Students getting together to learn about and share perspectives on vital issues concerning their faith. First meeting Monday, Nov. 16th, 7:30 p.m. Registration Rev. Roberta Clare 398-4104. McGill Chaplaincy.

A New Film Club in Montreal! Come learn the magic of Cinema in a relaxed, nonacademic setting. Guest lec-

tures, screenings, discussions and more! Begins mid-November. 8 weeks-\$85. Membership info: 489-0343, 938-5252.

Confused or Curious? LBGM (Lesbians, Bisexuals, Gays of McGill) is restarting peer counselling. Anyone interested in finding out about LBGM or has questions about their sexuality is welcome to drop by room 417, Shalner or call 398-6822. Hours are during lunch and 7 to 10, Monday through Saturday.

15 - Volunteers

CKUT 90.3 FM - Radio McGill needs volunteer librarians/archivists to help organize and maintain information systems vital to news and cultural programming. Information 398-6787 (Stuart) or drop by 3480 McTavish, B-15.

Female Models Wanted for test shoot. Free professional pictures in return. For interview, call Dia at 633-5627. Leave message.

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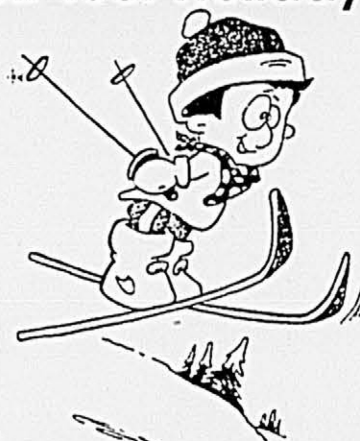
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C

ANTI-QUEER LAWS STILL ON THE BOOKS IN SEVERAL STATES

She noted that Oregon had more than twice as many anti-gay hate crimes in the first half of this year as in the same period of 1991.

This summer, Ontario Court Justice Marie Corbett found this distinction to be unconstitutional. For now at least, gay sex is, at least on paper, the same as straight sex.